GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2450
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2006
INCREASING CO2 LEVEL AND DEPLETION OF OZONE LAYER
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the level of CO2 (carbon dioxid

(e) in the atmosphere is increasing while ozone layer is depleting day by day;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to contain the situation; and

(d) the success achieved in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) The global average concentration of Carbon dioxide (CO2) has increased from a value 280 ppm in the pre-industrial era (prior to 1750) to 374 ppm in 2003 as per the report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2005). As per a joint World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Assessment in 2002, the 1997-2001 global average of total ozone in the atmospheric column has been 3% below the 1964-1980 average. The lowest values were recorded during 1992-93. The above changes are attributed to anthropogenic sources of emissions.

(c) & (d) The steps taken to contain the situation and the success achieved include the following:

To reduce the combined greenhouse gas emissions including CO2, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol on Convention on Climate Change are the international agreements. These agreements contain the measures for reduction of anthropogenic source of greenhouse gas emissions including CO2 by the industrialized countries. India is a Party to both the Convention and the Protocol. The Central Government is actively promoting projects under the Clean Development Mechanisms (CDM) of the Kyoto Protocol for reduction of emissions of green house gases. The National CDM Authority has so far given Host Country Approval to 252 eligible CDM projects.

In order to tackle the issue of ozone depletion, the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer are the international agreements. These agreements contain the measures for phasing out Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) in developed as well as developing countries. India is a Party to both the Convention and the Protocol and has taken necessary steps to phase out production and consumption of ODS in various sectors in accordance with the provisions of these agreements. The country programme has been prepared for phasing out various ODS and is under implementation at present.